

Message Text

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42

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05

CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 FPC-01 H-02

INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04

USIA-06 SAM-01 OES-03 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 PA-01

PRS-01 /104 W

----- 080369

R 221410Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2995

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TRIPOLI 0243

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG

SUBJECT: LIBYAN OFFSHORE OIL EXPLORATION

1. RECENT LIBYAN PRESS REPORTS OF "HUGE" NEW OFFSHORE OIL DISCOVERY APPARENTLY REFER TO FRENCH ELF/AQUITAINE EXPLORATION NEAR TUNISIAN BORDER. ELF/AQUITAINE GROUP HAS APPARENTLY HAD SOME SUCCESS IN ITS LIBYAN OFFSHORE PRODUCTION-SHARING ACREAGE BUT PRESS ACCOUNTS ARE HIGHLY EXAGGERATED. INDUSTRY SOURCES TELLUS THAT FLOW TEST ON DISCOVERY WELL WAS UNSTABLE AND THUS ACCURATE ASSESSMENT OF COMMERCIAL PROSPECTS WERE NOT POSSIBLE. AQUITAINE TEST WELL WAS SHUT DOWN AFTER OPERATING MISHAP AND COMPANY IS CURRENTLY SINKING SECOND EXPLORATION WELL IN SAME VICINITY.

2. WE UNDERSTAND ELF-AQUITAINE GROUP IS CONDUCTING ITS OFFSHORE EXPLORATION IN PARTNERSHIP WITH AUSTRIAN-
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OVM AND GERMANY WINTERSHALL FIRMS. PRESS REPORTS LIBYAN NATIONAL OIL COMPANY HAS 81 PER CENT OF

PRODUCTION-SHARING VENTURE.

4. AQUITAINE TEST WELL IS LOCATED IN LIBYAN
CONCESSION AREA 137 SOME 60 MILES DUE NORTH
OF ZUARA NEAR TUNISIAN BORDER.
CARLE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: OFFSHORE OIL FIELDS, EXPLORATORY DRILLING, JOINT VENTURES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Comment: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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04 MAY 2006

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Type: TE
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